



# *Appointments and Briefings*

April 25, 2007 – 7:00 p.m. - **Agenda (Revised)**  
City Council Chamber, Room 214 – Municipal Building

## **View Minutes**

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1. Citizen's Input Time - Not to exceed the first thirty (30) minutes of the meeting.
- 1a. Pamela J. Cole, 10 Junior Street, New Bedford, MA, Speaking on New Bedford to Bedford, England Friendship Committee.

***INVITEES: Pamela J. Cole***

2. COMMUNICATION, Mayor Lang, submitting request for WAIVER OF RESIDENCY for ATTORNEY JANE ESTAY, Associate Solicitor, who resides at 8 Gray Birch Road, East Sandwich, MA, 02537. (Ref'd 3/8/07)

***INVITEES: Attorney Jane Estay***

3. Communication, Mayor Lang, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of R. RENEE FERNANDES-ABBOTT, 115 High Street, Wareham, MA 02571, as TREASURER, effective March 26, 2007, at a Salary of \$63, 623.00, Grade 13, Step 5; also requesting a WAIVER OF RESIDENCY for Ms. Fernandes-Abbott. (Ref'd 4/12/07)

***INVITEES: R. Renee Fernandes-Abbott***

4. Communication/Email, Councillor Gonsalves to and from Scott Gardiner, Championship Sports Ventures, re: exploring the possibility of bringing a Professional Baseball Team to New Bedford. (Ref 8/23/05)

***INVITEES: Scott Gardiner***

5. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Coelho, Alves, Gonsalves, Lawrence, Gomes, DeMedeiros, Pina and Saunders, requesting that the City of New Bedford offer to implement a Citizens Academy, modeled on the one in Seminole County of Florida; the Citizens Academy is a program designed to familiarize the general public with role services and operations involved in local government, which focuses on educating residents on how daily local government operates and how they will contribute to building a better community. (Ref'd 8/17/06)

***INVITEES: Citizen's Police Academy Program Coordinator Captain Richard Spirlet***

6. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Gonsalves, requesting that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings and the Planning Board meet with the new owners of the former Frates Funeral Home on County Street to discuss plans for the site. (Ref'd 11/21/06)

***INVITEES: Mr. Michael Da Silveira, Property Owner; Commissioner of Inspectional Services, Ronald A. Durgin; Deputy Commissioner of Inspectional Services Danny Romanowicz; Area Residents;***

7. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Lawrence and Council President Pimental, on behalf of the Goulart Square Neighborhood Association, in light of the contaminants found on the SSGT Joseph Camara Memorial Soccer Field, requesting that DPF Superintendent of Parks and Public Places Kenneth Blanchard post “DO NOT USE” signs explaining why (health hazard) in English, Spanish and Portuguese, because people are currently using that field, not knowing the health risks they are taking; and further, requesting that the Administration brief the City Council Committee on Appointments and Briefings as to the timeline for the cleanup of this field. (Ref’d 2/8/07)

***INVITEES: DPF Superintendent of Parks & Public Places Kenneth Blanchard***

8. Written Motion, Councillor Gonsalves, requesting, on behalf of David Gould of 157 Grinnell Street, that the City Council Committee on Appointments & Briefings meet with Ronald Labelle, Commissioner of the Department of Public Infrastructure to discuss changing the water shut-off policy. (Ref’d 12/15/05, 6/13/06 tabled to next meeting, tabled 2/12/07)

***INVITEES: DPI Commissioner Ron Labelle; David Gould***

***Chairman suggests to “Follow Recommended Action” on the following items:***

9. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Alves, requesting that the Commissioner of Inspectional Services contact Sovereign Bank and ask them to take immediate action to clean and remove the excessive trash and debris that is piled up on the sidewalk of the property at 30 Clark Street, which is blocking the sidewalk, providing rodents a place to live, and presenting a danger to children and residents in the neighborhood as well as creating a potential liability to the Sovereign Bank and the City of New Bedford if someone trips due to the trash, or if it should be started on fire by someone passing by. (Ref’d 1/25/07) ***Chair recommends drafting a letter to Inspectional Services, for a response in thirty (30) days.***

***Chairman suggests “No Further Action” on the following items:***

10. Written Motion, Councillor Gomes, requesting that the Committee on Appointments & Briefings contact the former State Representative. Mark Howland, for the purpose of a recap of the procedure to follow when applying for the Grant Program from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative; and further, to answer the pros and cons of the program and study by the City on Wind Turbine Power. (Ref’d 3/10/05, tabled 11/15/06)
11. Written Motion, Councillor Gomes, requesting that the City Council Committee on Appointments & Briefings meet with the former State Representative Mark Howland and the General Electric Official(s), who is interested in locating a Manufacturing Plant of Wind Turbines in the City of New Bedford. (Ref’d 3/10/05, tabled 11/15/06)
12. Written Motion, Councillor Alves, asking that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings schedule a meeting with South Coast Legal Services Corporation Violence Prevention Program Director Phil Castle, and members from the Mayor’s Office, also the Police Chief and Sheriffs Departments, to determine how we can work together to address the issue of violence on our City streets before the tension increase – especially during the summer weather. (Ref’d 6/8/06, tabled 9/12/06 sent letter to Police Chief)

13. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Pimental, requesting that Kathleen Stephani from the Mayor's Office be invited to attend a meeting of the Committee on Appointments and Briefings to provide Council members with an update on the plan to install cameras throughout the City of New Bedford, e.g., what steps have been taken, what are the delays (if any) and to explain the situation as it stands, and whether or not the grant money is still available to us. (Ref'd 9/14/06)
14. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Coelho, requesting that a representative from the Traffic Commission address the City Council's Committee on Appointments and Briefings to explain why the students from the Star Store BCC Campus are prevented from parking at the Zeiterion Parking Lot at the same rate they are charged to park at the Elm Street Garage, i.e., twenty-five cents (\$.25) per hour as opposed to two dollars (\$2.00) per hour at the Zeiterion; and further, it should also be explained why, when the Zeiterion Parking Lot is underutilized, with the third, fourth and roof levels always empty, Monday through Friday, during normal business hours, the students are denied access to reduced rate parking. (Ref'd 2/8/07) *Already done.*